



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

In re Application of: **Hurst, J. et al.**

Serial No.: **09/301,811**

Filed: **April 28, 1999**

Art Unit: **1631**

Examiner: **Allen, M.**

**System And Method For Database**

**Similarity Join**

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Director of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

San Diego, California  
August **24**, 2001

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 20, 2001**

08/31/2001 TPLUNKET 00000002 501441 09301811

Dear Sir:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated June 20, 2001 ("Action").

Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-referenced pending patent application.

**In the Claims**

Please amend Claims 10 and 22 as follows:

Claim 10(Amended) A computer-based method for retrieving information that is based upon at least one similarity among entities in one or more databases, comprising items with at least one item having at least one property similar to a target item, the method comprising:

identifying a target item; and  
using a computer to perform a fuzzy similarity join on the database to retrieve at least one item from the database that comprises at least one property similar to a property of the target item.

Date: August **24**, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "FIRST CLASS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. A self-addressed, stamped post-card is also enclosed herewith.

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U.S. Reg. No.: 46,087